

**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
Western District of New York*

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# PRESS RELEASE

June 22, 2004

RE: **UNITED STATES v. JAMES BOORMAN**

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today the sentencing of Russell James Boorman, age 45, formerly of Tonawanda, New York, who was convicted on March 22, 2002, of distribution of methamphetamine and marijuana and again on March 5, 2004, for possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine and conspiracy to commit money laundering. Boorman was sentenced to 240 months imprisonment followed by 10 years supervised release, the forfeiture of certain assets and a \$50,000 judgment by United States District Judge Richard J. Arcara.

Assistant United States Attorney, Thomas S. Duszkievicz, who handled the case, stated that the defendant had been convicted of distribution of methamphetamine and marijuana on March 22, 2002 after a jury trial, and again on March 5, 2004 by way of plea to an indictment, charging him with possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of methamphetamine and to a separate information charging him with conspiracy to

commit money laundering. AUSA Duszkievicz stated that during Boorman's arrest on September 12, 2000 on an indictment charging him with three earlier sales of methamphetamine and some marijuana to an confidential informant and an undercover agent, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Agents located an active indoor and outdoor marijuana growing operation and a small quantity of methamphetamine at the defendant's residence in addition to a semi-automatic shotgun. Upon seizing a motorcycle, pursuant to a seizure warrant, from defendant's garage, the Agents discovered a large safe in which they later searched and found 2½ pounds of methamphetamine and \$12,900 in U.S. currency. During the course of a search of the defendant's bedroom, additional drug records, receipts and literature dealing with the manufacture of methamphetamine was found, as well as a lease for a storage facility which was later searched and found to contain listed precursor chemicals and additional formulas and glassware for the manufacturing of methamphetamine. Various financial records showing money transfers totaling over \$17,000 for a two-day period in September 2000 were also found. Follow up investigation by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Criminal Investigation Division, indicated that between May 1997 and September 2000, Boorman and his girlfriend sent in excess of \$241,000 to his source of supply in Las Vegas, Nevada for large quantities of methamphetamine which demonstrated his money-laundering activities.

The conviction was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the DEA under the direction of Assistant Special Agent in Charge Mark T. Peterson, and the IRS Criminal Investigation Division under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Anne Marie Coons.